

**APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) GRANT
FOR A PROJECT IN THE WOLVERCOTE NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM AREA
Spring Round 2026**

1. Please read the “Guidance Notes for WNF CIL Funding Applications”
2. The sections of this application form may be used flexibly to provide additional information where necessary. Not all sections will be relevant to all projects, and you may leave these blank.
3. Applications will be assessed by the WNF Steering Committee, taking account of the following criteria; applicants may wish to include supporting information regarding their project’s fit to the criteria.
 - Location within or serving the WNF Community
 - The recipient operates as a recognised body with a nominated bank account
 - The project has agreement in principle from the property or asset owner
 - Value for money
 - Consideration has been given to health and safety requirements
 - Environmental sustainability
 - Innovation
4. If your application is successful, please
 - Confirm to the Forum receipt of funding from the City Council
 - Send us photographs of your finished project.

APPLICATION DATE	13/03/2026
REVISION DATE if applicable	-
TITLE Short title by which the project will be known	Squash court heaters at Ferry Leisure Centre
PROJECT APPLICANT(S) Name of person (not organisation) who has initiated the project. Do not include contact details here: see page 3.	Rob Jennings
APPLICANT ORGANISATION Name and type of organisation, if applicable, charity number.	More Leisure Community Trust (registered charity – number 1093653)
OUTLINE PROJECT DESCRIPTION Short description so others not associated with the project can understand its purpose and scope. Include aims & objectives, and expected beneficiaries (max 150 words)	<p>Ferry Leisure Centre’s squash courts are an important community facility used by players from across North Oxford, including a significant number of residents from Wolvercote. However, the courts currently suffer from inadequate heating, making them cold, uncomfortable, and at times unsuitable for play, particularly during winter. This project proposes the installation of modern, energy efficient heaters to ensure the courts remain warm, safe, and fully usable throughout the year.</p> <p>The aim is to improve user comfort, increase participation, and support the long-term sustainability of squash as an accessible, local sport. The upgrade will also help the centre broaden its appeal, encouraging more regular activity and supporting community wellbeing.</p>

	<p>Beneficiaries include club players, casual users, junior participants, and residents who rely on Ferry Leisure Centre as a valued local facility.</p>
<p>MAIN TASKS</p> <p>A list of the main tasks and if appropriate an initial project plan with timescales.</p>	<p>1. Confirm requirements [done]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalise technical requirements for suitable squash court heating solutions. <p>2. Installation preparation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree installation dates* and access arrangements with the leisure centre’s management team. • Ensure courts are cleared and ready for contractor access. <p><i>*the supplier’s lead time is a matter of weeks so we can get this work completed within weeks of a successful funding decision</i></p> <p>3. Installation works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External contractor installs the new heaters, including wiring, mounting and safety checks. • Centre staff provide on site support as needed. <p>4. Testing and sign off</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contractor completes system testing and hands over operational guidance. • Final inspection and sign off to confirm the courts are ready for use.
<p>STAKEHOLDERS & DETAILS OF CONSULTATION</p> <p>(e.g. Council, Highways, site owners or asset holders, community organisations, businesses, neighbours)</p>	<p>Oxford City Council</p> <p>As the owner of Ferry Leisure Centre, the Council is a key stakeholder. Internal discussions have taken place with James Baughan (Leisure Contract Manager) and colleagues regarding the need for improved heating in the squash courts.</p> <p>More Leisure / Serco Leisure (Facility Operator)</p> <p>Operational responsibilities for the centre sit with More Leisure Community Trust, with day to day management by Serco Leisure. Consultation has involved Rob Jennings (More Leisure Contract Manager) and Jim Bullock (Technical & Energy Manager) who have sourced quotes and advised on technical feasibility.</p> <p>Specialist Heating Supplier (BN Thermic)</p>

	<p>A supplier consultation was undertaken with BN Thermic, who provided product recommendations and technical guidance on appropriate heater models for squash courts.</p> <p>Leisure Centre Users</p> <p>Regular players and local residents, including Wolvercote based users, have provided supporting information on demand, community benefit, and local connections.</p>
<p>RELEVANCE TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN</p> <p>How does the project enhance or develop our neighbourhood?</p>	<p>1. Supporting community health and wellbeing</p> <p>The Wolvercote Neighbourhood Plan places strong emphasis on promoting health, wellbeing, and opportunities for local residents to lead active lives. By ensuring the squash courts are warm and comfortable, the project directly supports WNP objectives around improving access to health enhancing facilities within the neighbourhood; indeed, this project will enhance the courts' inclusivity by making them more usable for a wider range of ages and abilities.</p> <p>2. Enhancing a valued local facility used by Wolvercote residents</p> <p>Ferry Leisure Centre is a significant community asset in North Oxford. The WNP includes priorities around maintaining access to high quality local facilities. Providing reliable heating ensures that Wolvercote residents can comfortably use the courts all year round, safeguarding an asset that already plays a role in local wellbeing and social fabric.</p> <p>3. Strengthening Wolvercote's community identity and participation</p> <p>We have strong evidence of Wolvercote residents using the courts regularly, contributing to local sports culture, and supporting local businesses (such as The Plough) after league matches. The WNP emphasises community cohesion, local engagement, and supporting activities that help residents stay connected. Improving the courts enhances an activity that already binds Wolvercote residents together socially as well as physically.</p> <p>4. Contributing to sustainable, year round access to sport</p> <p>Installing efficient heaters supports the WNP's focus on sustainable development by promoting more consistent</p>

	year round participation without requiring major structural changes or expansion.
<p>CONSENTS REQUIRED</p> <p>Are any legal consents required before the project can go ahead (e.g. from a Council department such as Highways, Planning, Building Control, or other statutory organisation)?</p>	None required.
<p>FINANCE</p> <p>How much will this project cost in total? What proportion is being sought from CIL funding? What other sources of finance are being pursued? Are you seeking matched funding? What will the CIL grant be spent on?</p> <p>PLEASE INCLUDE COPIES OF FIRM QUOTATIONS</p>	<p>Total cost for heaters and installation: £1,938.00</p> <p>The full amount is being sought from this funding. Please see quote attached.</p>
<p>MAINTENANCE</p> <p>How will the outputs of the project be maintained and by whom? Please note that CIL grants cannot be used to cover ongoing costs.</p>	Maintenance will be undertaken by More Leisure as part of our operating responsibilities.
<p>RISK ASSESSMENT</p> <p>Are there any financial or other risks to the completion of this project?</p> <p>Are there any safety issues associated with the project?</p>	There are no risks or safety issues associated with this project. If we're unable to secure funding for this project, we risk a reduction in squash participation, particularly as we're one of few squash facilities in the area.
<p>MONITORING AND REPORTING</p> <p>How will the success of the project be monitored? Over what timescale?</p>	Success will be measured by user feedback in the cooler months of the year (we expect to hear from users towards the end of the year, around September/October 2026)
<p>OTHER COMMENTS OR INFORMATION</p> <p>Please list anything else of relevance you wish the Committee to be aware of.</p>	N/A
<p>Completed applications, WITH COPIES OF FIRM QUOTATIONS WHERE APPLICABLE should be sent with a covering email to wolvercotenf@gmail.com</p>	